GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4115
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2005
NATIONAL BIO-TECHNOLOGY REGULATORY AUTHORITY
Oram Shri Jual;Satpathy Shri Tathagata

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has proposed 100% FDI in biotech through direct route and setting up of a new centre of excellence as reported in the Times of India dated 04-04-2005; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up a National Biotechnology Regulatory Authority;and

(d) if so, the objectives and other details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER Of STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a)&(b) Yes Sir, the Department of Biotechnology has recommended to Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Industry and Commerce which is the nodal Department for framing Policy Formulation on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), for permitting 100% FDI in the Biotech sector through automatic route. In the draft `National Biotechnology Development Strategy` document, Department has stated that new national institutions and centres for excellence shall be promoted in the areas of translational research in public health; marine biotechnology; animal biotechnology; nutritional genomics and food biotechnology; herbal medicine; molecular medicine; bio-materials and devices and bioinformatics.

(c)&(d) In the draft `National Biotechnology Development Strategy` document, the Department has stated that competent single `National Biotechnology Regulatory Authority` be established to provide an effective clearance mechanism for all biotech products.